

acid molecules encoding alphavirus structural proteins used for making alphavirus packaging cell lines" would in fact disclose all of the limitations found in claim Groups II, III and IV. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that Groups II, III and IV, encompassing claims 7-16 should be combined into a single group for maximum searching efficacy.

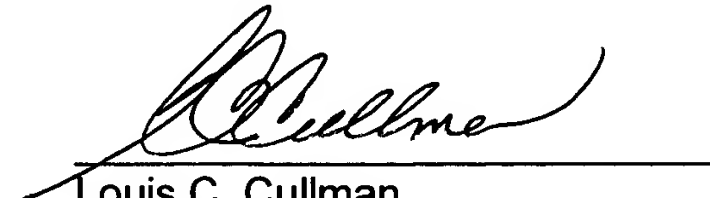
4. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's restriction requirement has been traversed. Furthermore, Applicants believe that the alternative claim groupings proposed herein reduces the Examiner's search burden, provides for a more comprehensive prior art search and increases overall prosecution efficiency. Should the Examiner accept the Applicants proposed claim groupings, or portions thereof, the Applicants elect to prosecute former Groups V, VI and VII as described in Section 1 above. However, should the Examiner make final her election requirement, the Applicants' provisional election of Group V is final.

If the Examiner feels for any reason that direct contact with Applicants' attorney will advance the prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2230. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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